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Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 /015 W
---------- 095655
P 270440Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1117

UNCGUS KUALA LUMPUR 5129

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: AFSP; ASEC
SUBJ: HIRING OF SECURITY GUARDS FOR PROTECTION OF STAFF RESIDENCES

REF: (1) STATE 199891; (2) KL 4922

1. FOUR OF EIGHT ROBBERIES HAVE BEEN SCORED ON MEMBERS OF OTHER AGENCIES; HENCE, NEITHER REPORTS NOR CLAIMS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT. CLAIMS ON STATE PERSONNEL REQUIRE LENGTHY PROCESSING TIME IN MALAYSIA FOR THOSE COVERED BY INSURANCE AND HAVE NOT YET REACHED STAGE TO PERMIT FORWARDING TO WASH. REPORTS, INCLUDING POLICE INVESTIGATIONS WHERE AVAIL ARE BEING SUBMITTED UNDER SEPARATE COVER.

2. COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY RSS CONTAINED REF. 2.

3. THE LARGER FOREIGN MISSIONS (LARGER IN TERMS OF PERSONNEL) HAVE ALSO SUFFERED INCREASE IN ROBBERIES. THEY REPORT THAT POLICE, AS IN OUR CASE, DO THEIR BEST TO PROVIDE PROTECTION. THERE IS A CONCERTED EFFORT ON PART OF HOST GOVERNMENT TO RECRUIT AND TRAIN ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL. IN VIEW GENERAL COOPERATION ON THEIR PART AND GIVEN THE WIDESPREAD LOCATIONS OF SETTLEMENTS OF EMBASSY AND OTHER MISSION PERSONNEL, NO CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO MAKING DEMARCHE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THIS PROBLEM.

4. WITHOUT EXCEPTION, CHIEFS OF ALL MISSIONS ARE PROVIDED GUARD SERVICES AT OFFICIAL EXPENSE. ALSO WITHOUT EXCEPTION AMONG LARGER MISSIONS, INCLUDING OUR OWN, GUARD SERVICE IS PROVIDED AT OFFICIAL EXPENSE ON HOMES WHERE EMPLOYEE, OR EMPLOYEE AND FAMILY, ARE
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TEMPORARILY AWAY FROM HOME OVERNIGHT OR LONGER. TWO MISSIONS PROVIDE

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NON-PROFESSIONAL (WATCHMEN) GUARD SERVICE AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE ON ALL PROPERTIES; ONE MISSION PROVIDES SIMILAR SERVICE ON GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTY BUT NOT ON PRIVATELY LEASED RESIDENCES; AND TWO MISSIONS PROVIDE NO GUARD SERVICE, LEAVING UP TO THE INDIVIDUAL THE DECISION AND COST TO HIRE SUCH SERVICE.

5. IN NON-OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY, OF THOSE COMPANIES POLLED ONLY ONE PROVIDED, AT COMPANY EXPENSE, NON-PROFESSIONAL NIGHT WATCHMA N
SERVICE FOR ITS AMERICAN EMPLOYEES ON A DAILY BASIS. A SECOND PROVIDES 24-HOUR GUARDS FOR THE RESIDENCES OF THE TOP TWO OFFICIALS OF THE COMPANY BUT NOTHING FOR OTHER EMPLOYEES EXCEPT WHEN THE HUSBAND IS AWAY ON COMPANY BUSINESS OR THE FAMILY IS AWAY ON VACATION. THE REMAINING COMPANIES FURNISH NO GUARD OR WATCHMAN SERVICES FOR THEIR AMERICAN EMPLOYEES AT COMPANY EXPENSE.

6. IN EVENT THAT AUTHORIZATION FORTHCOMING TO SUPPLEMENT LOCAL POLICE PROTECTION, ONLY IMPACT ANTICIPATED ON OFFICIAL COMMUNITY IS THAT DECISION WOULD PROVIDE IMPETUS AND CREDIBILITY FOR OTHER MISSIONS SEEKING ADDED PROTECTION THEIR AREAS WHICH NOT AS YET AVAIL FROM THEIR GOVERNMENTS. FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH MEMBERS NON-OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY, THEY, TOO, APPARENTLY WOULD FOLLOW THE EMBASSY'S LEAD IN PROVIDING PROTECTION BUT EACH COMPANY SEEMS TO BE WAITING TO SEE WHAT OTHERS WILL DO.

7. AS INDICATED IN ORIGINAL REQUEST, EMBASSY HAS EMBARKED UPON PROGRAM WHEREBY RESIDENCES OF ALL MEMBERS OF STAFF ARE FULLY FURNISHE D
WITH US GOVT-OWNED FURNITURE, FURNISHING AND EQUIPMENT. OF THE 50 RESIDENCES OCCUPIED BY MISSION PERSONNEL, 42 ARE FURNISHED, FURNISHING FOR 3 OTHERS ARE ON ORDER AND EXPECTED SOON, FURNISHING FOR 3 ARE TO BE ORDERED VERY SOON AND FOR 2, LATER IN THE F.Y. (THESE DATA EXCLUDE THE AMBASSADOR, DCM AND PAO RESIDENCES.)
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